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C. McKinney

865.4335

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: Examiner: A. Chang  
TAKEHIKO NAKAI )  
: Group Art Unit: 2872  
Appln. No.: 09/241,851 )  
:   
Filed: February 2, 1999 )  
:   
For: DIFFRACTIVE OPTICAL ) February 14, 2000  
ELEMENT AND OPTICAL )  
SYSTEM HAVING THE SAME )

The Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION AND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under  
37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under  
37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant petitions the Examiner  
to consider the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-  
1449. A copy of the listed documents are enclosed, together  
with English-language Abstracts of the Japanese language  
documents.

Japanese Patent Document No. '810 provides a  
diffractive optical element having a plurality of layers made

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240.00 DP

from at least two kinds of material differing in dispersions. Diffraction gratings are formed on the respective layers to heighten a diffraction efficiency for a particular order throughout the useful wavelength region. A value obtained by summing values for all the layers, obtained by multiplying a rate of change of refractive index, by the grating thickness is less than a useful wavelength.

Japanese Patent Document No. '322 provides a diffractive optical element having three areas layered closely or adjacent to each other, with relief patterns at the boundaries. The second and third areas are made from different materials, transparent to wavelengths of light. The relief patterns have different groove depths of substantially the same pitch distribution. Mutually corresponding portions of the relief patterns are adjacent.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$240 to cover the Petition fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any other fees necessary

for consideration of this information to Deposit Account No.  
06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in  
our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010.  
All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed  
address.

Respectfully submitted,

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TCG/fdb